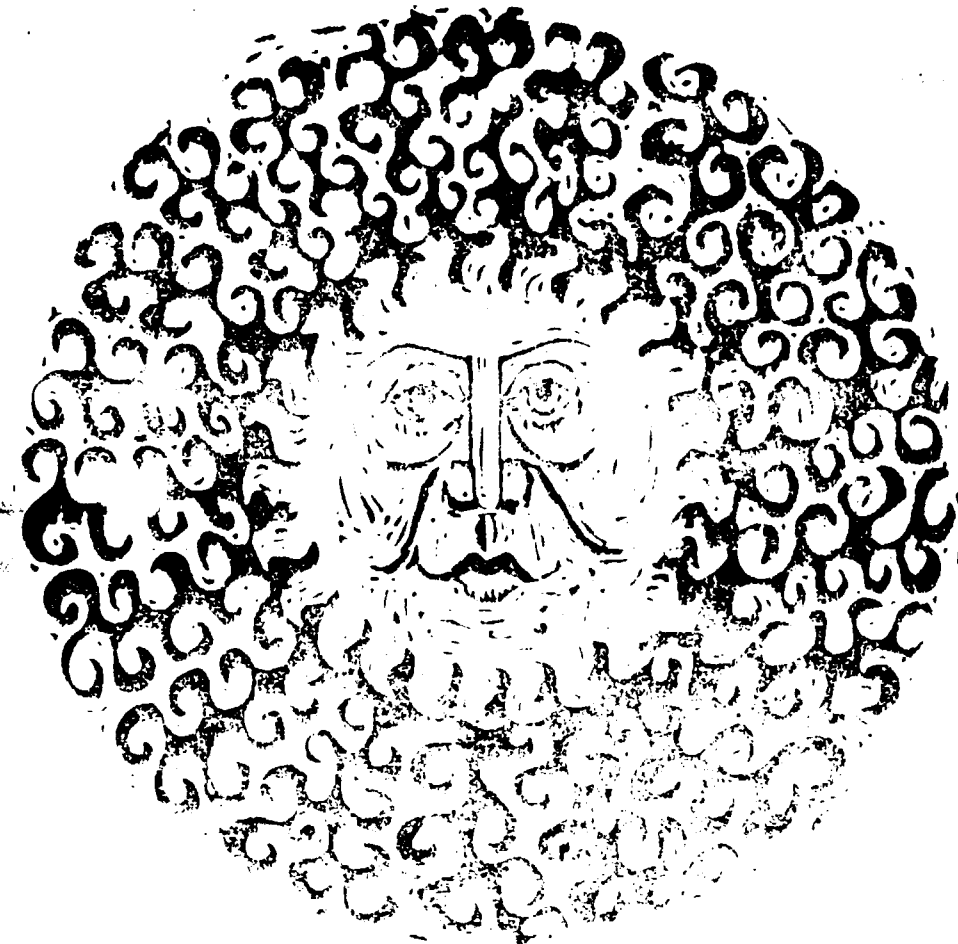


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CLIMATIC ATLAS OF THE UNITED STATES



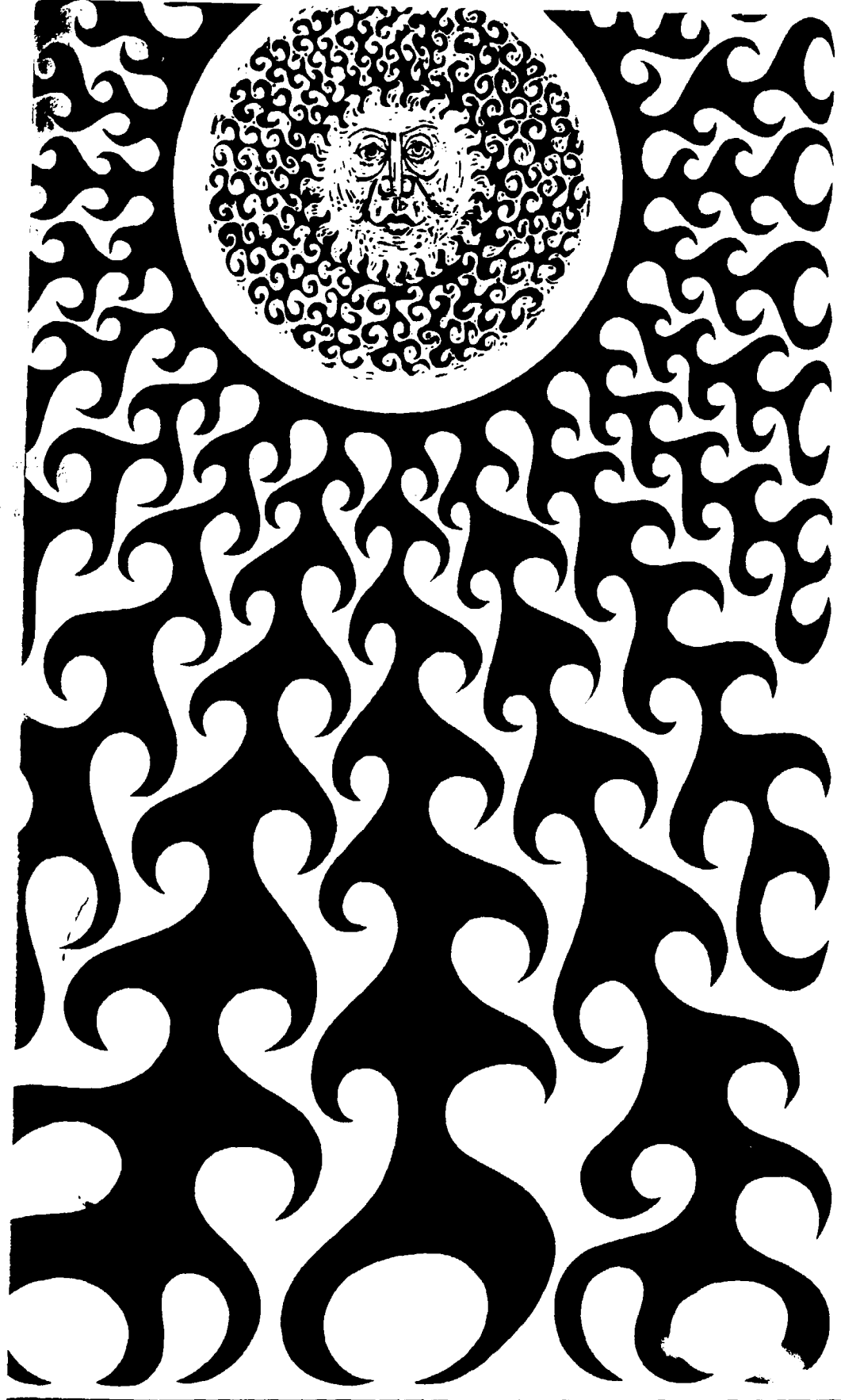
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
C. R. Smith, Secretary

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
Robert M. White, Administrator

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SERVICE
Woodward C. Jacobs, Director

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PREFACE

The purpose of this atlas is to depict the climate of the United States in terms of the distribution and variation of constituent climatic elements. Climate is a profound, often controlling, effect upon the life, mood, health, and activity of all of us.

Climate may be considered the collective state of the earth's atmosphere at a specific place for a long period of time (usually several decades). The short-term variations of the state of the atmosphere are called "weather." Weather is the product of the interaction of numerous natural elements; the long term statistical valuations of these various elements collectively define the climate. For many planning and scheduling purposes it is more important to know the climate of a certain place, resort area, etc., than to know what the weather happens to be there today.

The Climatic Maps of the United States present in uniform format a series of analyses showing the national distribution of mean, normal, and/or extreme values of temperature, precipitation, wind, barometric pressure, relative humidity, dewpoint, sunshine, sky cover, heating degree days, solar radiation, and evaporation. The map projection has been standardized to allow accurate comparison and correlation of the various climatic elements and their patterns.

The individual analyses were originally prepared to meet the

demand for climatic information from commercial, industrial, agricultural, research, and educational institutions, as well as from the general public. Each sheet, or set of sheets, was made available as soon as printed. Now the entire set - a total of 40 large sheets containing 271 climatic maps and 15 tables - has been collected and bound into this comprehensive atlas. (Individual sheets and sets may still be purchased separately).

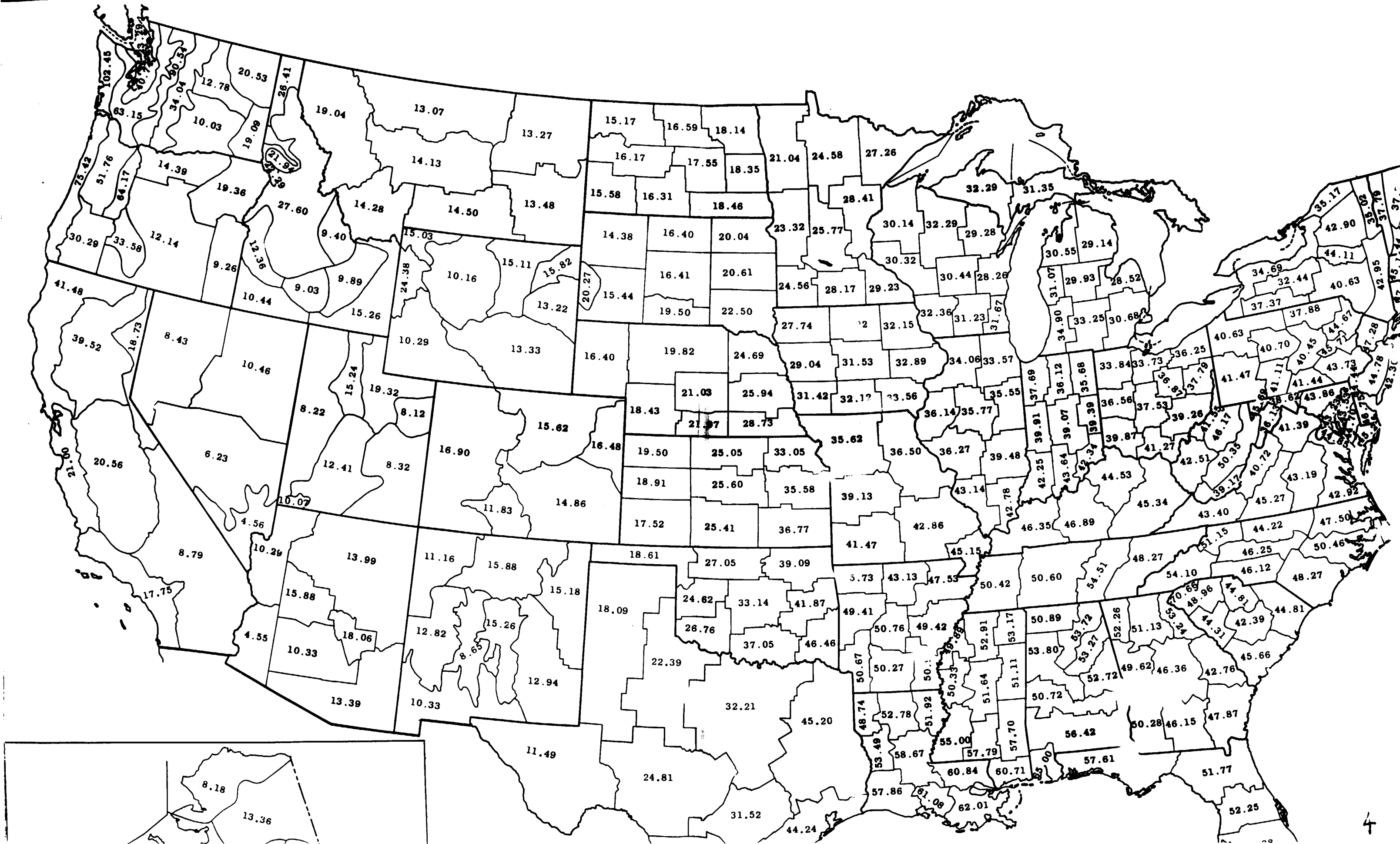
It should be remembered that these analyses are not forecasts of temperature, precipitation, etc., but rather reflect collective atmospheric conditions that occurred over periods of years; often observed conditions for any given day, week, month - or even year - will differ sharply from those indicated in the analyses.

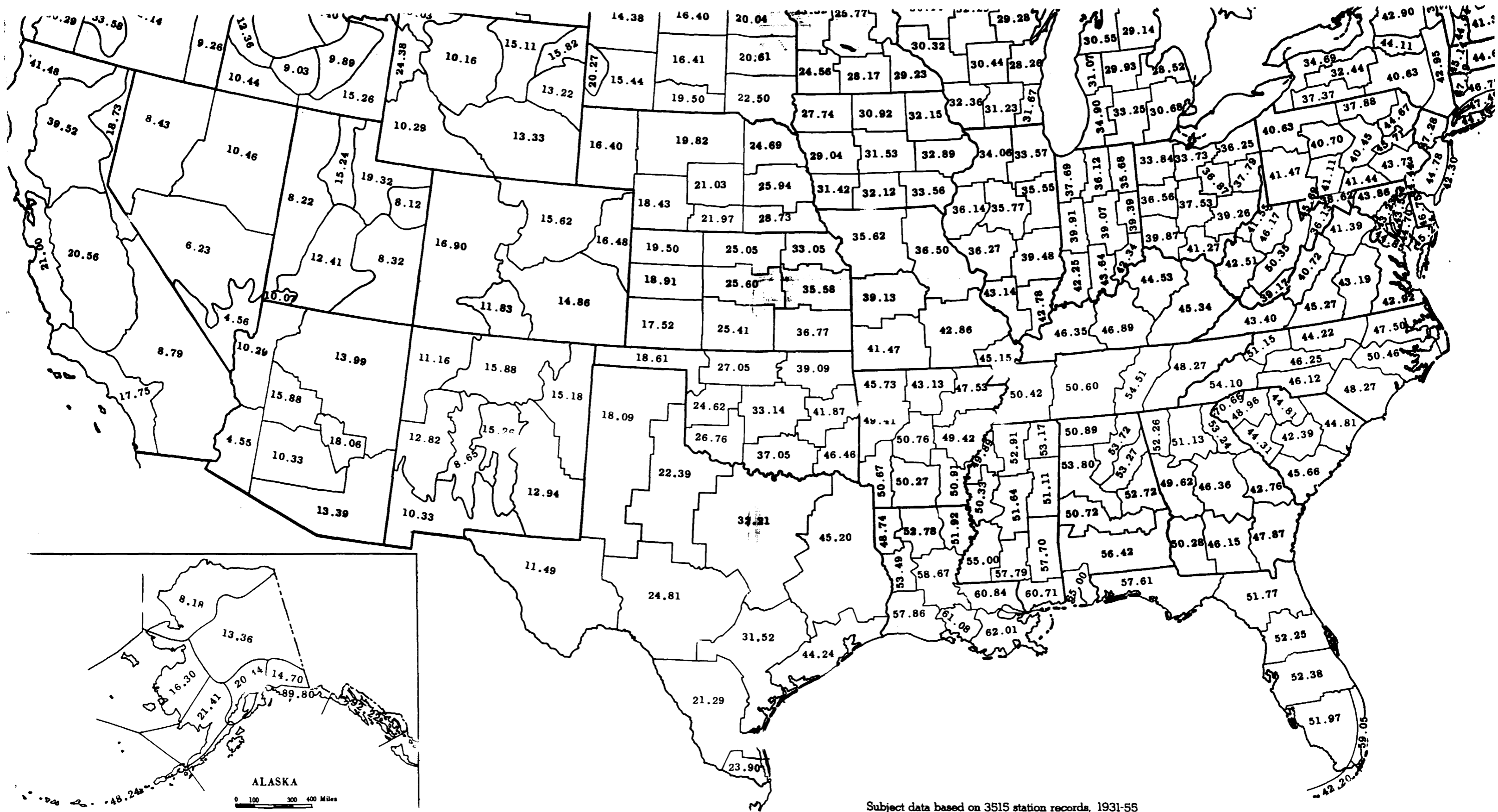
The climatic maps in this atlas were prepared primarily by John L. Baldwin, Chief of the Domestic Climatology Branch of the Environmental Data Service, ESSA, an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce, with some map contributions from the Hydrologic Services Division and the former Solar Radiation Section of the Weather Bureau. Appreciation is due Dr. Helmut E. Landsberg, former Director of the Environmental Data Service, and to the National Academy of Science Advisory Committee on Climatology for advice and guidance.

CONTENTS

	page		page
Normal Daily Maximum, Minimum, Average, Range and Extremes of Temperature (°F), Monthly	1	Mean Annual Precipitation in Millions of Gallons of Water Per Square Mile by State Climatic Divisions	51
Mean Annual Number of Days Maximum Temperature 90°F and Above	25	Mean Annual Precipitation in Millions of Gallons of Water Per Capita by State Climatic Divisions	52
Mean Number of Days Maximum Temperature 90° F and Above, Monthly and Annual	26	Mean Total Snowfall (Inches)	53
Mean Annual Number of Days Minimum Temperature 32°F and Below	27	Mean Monthly Total Snowfall (Inches), For Selected Stations.....	54
Mean Number of Days Minimum Temperature 32°F and Below, Monthly and Annual	28	Mean Number of Days with 0.01 Inch or More of Precipitation, Monthly and Annual	55
Mean Date of Last 32°F Temperature in Spring	29	Mean Dewpoint Temperature (°F), Monthly and Annual	57
Mean Date of First 32°F Temperature in Autumn	30	Maximum Persisting 12-Hour 1000-mb Dewpoint Temperature (°F), Monthly and Record	59
Mean Length of Freeze-Free Period (Days)	31	Mean Relative Humidity (%), Monthly and Annual	61
Mean Length of Period Between Selected Freezing Temperatures in Spring and Autumn and Mean Freeze Dates	32	Pan and Lake Evaporation	63
Normal Total Heating Degree Days, Monthly and Annual	33	Mean Percentage of Possible Sunshine, Monthly and Annual	65
Normal Total Precipitation (Inches), Monthly and Annual	37	Mean Total Hours of Sunshine, Monthly and Annual	67
Mean Total Precipitation (Inches) by State Climatic Division, Monthly and Annual	45	Mean Daily Solar Radiation, Monthly and Annual	69
State Climatic Divisions	50	Mean Sky Cover, Sunrise to Sunset, Monthly and Annual	71
		Prevailing Direction, Mean Speed (m.p.h.), and Fastest Mile of Wind, Monthly and Annual	73
		Surface Wind Roses, Monthly and Annual; Resultant Sur- face Winds, Midseasonal	75
		Normal Sea-Level Pressures, Monthly and Annual	79

MEAN ANNUAL TOTAL PRECIPITATION (inches) BY STATE CLIMATIC DIVISIONS





LAKE EVAPORATION

